



Case mate

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Warner inspects post's devastation by Isabel

Promises pursuit of \$500 million for bases during post visit

BY PATRICK BUFFETT
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

With Hurricane Isabel damage estimates creeping toward the \$87 million mark, Fort Monroe officials are hopeful that Sen. John Warner is successful in his pursuit of a \$500 million relief package for bases in Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland.

Warner pledged his support during a visit to Fort Monroe Oct. 3. He said the relief package would be tacked on to President Bush's recent \$87 billion request for rebuilding Iraq.

"I would think Congress would want to move quickly to restore these bases to their pre-hurricane condition," Warner said. He also described the damage at Fort Monroe, Langley Air Force Base and other areas he visited as "the worst I've seen in my 25 years in the Senate."

Accompanied by post commander, Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, the senator was shown the rapidly expanding debris pile at Walker Airfield. Mounds of branches, siding off buildings and even office furniture were covering an area easily exceeding the size of a football field. About 516 tons of "primarily non-organic" debris has since been moved to local landfills, according to Lt. Col. Craig Simoneau, post director of Public Works and Logistics.

Warner also got an up-close look at the areas where storm surge broke through the earthen dam along Mill Creek and the far-sturdier cement seawall on the Chesapeake Bay side of post. That damage, along with waves that crashed over other portions of the seawall,



Photo by Patrick Buffett

Senator Warner with Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, post commander, on seawall, Oct. 3.

resulted in flooding across 85 percent of the installation.

Considering the age of many of the buildings on Monroe, Warner said he was somewhat surprised that the post's infrastructure held as well as it did. "In some regards, I think this old base held very firmly and just fought back."

He went on to describe Fort Monroe as a "historic, magnificent installation," that he's willing to fight for when it comes to not only hurricane recovery, but the next Base Realignment and Closure round in 2005.

"We felt very honored by Senator Warner's visit," Allmendinger said afterward. "It clearly demonstrated the importance of this installa-

tion."

The senator appeared "genuinely astonished" by the amount of damage that Fort Monroe sustained, Allmendinger added. "It's crucial that we receive the requisite funding in order for us to make the much needed repairs in our family housing and administrative areas, as well as seawall and road repairs."

The future of "Engineer Pier" would also be in question without additional funding from Congress, Simoneau noted. Emergency relief dollars are also needed to replace transformers and other electrical systems that are likely to fail as a result of being flooded with corrosive salt water.

Isabel recovery, extra FY03 funds bring 'good news, bad news'

BY PATRICK BUFFETT
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Between Hurricane Isabel recovery and the whirlwind of FY03 close-out funds just recently made available for a couple of major projects on post, Fort Monroe's Directorate of Public Works is tackling a slew of "good news, bad news" situations.

"Most of the bad news is that several buildings are being programmed to come down because of

the damage that was done by Hurricane Isabel," said Lt. Col. Craig L. Simoneau, post director of Public Works and Logistics. "The cost to repair those structures exceeds fifty percent of what we'd pay for a new building, so it makes better sense over the long run to just start over."

And, the biggest chunk of good news is that funds for a new youth activities center annex have been approved, which will help make up for the space that was lost when the

"School-Age Services" building (Bldg. 98) was severely damaged. The Monroe community may also see replacement hourly childcare and Army Community Services buildings popping up if Congress grants additional disaster relief dollars.

"Right now, housing is the hottest issue by far," Simoneau said. "The current plan is to begin taking down Wherry units, primarily in the 400 block (the area closest to the Bay Breeze Community Center), early next year. That will be followed by construction of approximately 40 military family housing units, probably in FY05. Then we'll move into phase two, which will replace the remainder of Wherry with military family housing, probably starting in FY06."

If it all goes according to plans, Fort Monroe will be left with 89 new housing units by FY08. Simoneau also emphasized that the

military construction project was already programmed prior to Isabel. The urgency of the hurricane recovery effort merely "hastened" the planned start date of demolition by just under a year.

Unfortunately, all this construction happening sooner than expected will pose a bit of an inconvenience for some post families. Command officials organized a pair of town hall meetings Oct. 1 to help Wherry residents understand and prepare for the situation.

After the hurricane three options were considered, Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, post commander, explained during the gatherings. Repairs could have been made to all units, keeping them operational for approximately one more year when the military family housing project was projected to begin anyway. "Given the extent of damage in some of the units, that wasn't

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Commentary

Chaplain's corner

Do the right thing after hurricane Isabel

So I continued, "What you are doing is not right. Shouldn't you walk in the fear of our God to avoid the reproach of our Gentile enemies?" Nehemiah 5:9

"Do the right thing" is a popular phrase we have a hard time accepting in a society where it seems that the wrong thing is more accepted and popular. It certainly attracts more attention than doing the right thing. Why is that we cringe when we hear those words? One reason is, in doing the right thing, we are held accountable to God and our fellow man for our behavior. Aren't there times you wish you were not accountable and you could live life the way you want to without anybody interfering? Yes, we all have thought that way at one time or another. But that's not the way it is supposed to be. God has created phrases in the world that remind us that he is here to stay; and yes, he holds us accountable for our actions. "Do the right thing" is what God wants and what he loves seeing us do.

Are we doing the right thing after hurricane Isabel? Perhaps the story of Nehemiah's rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem can shed light on what I'm trying to convey.

In the fifth chapter of Nehemiah he challenged those who took advantage of the poor after they

had returned from exile. It was bad enough, that Jerusalem, the city they had come to love and cherish, was destroyed. Many family members and friends had died at the hands of their slave masters. The Jews were taken as slaves to countries that did not believe in God. Among those exiled, were poor Jews, and when they returned to their land, Jewish nobles and political officials had taken it and were charging exorbitant interest to use the land. Many of the poor went into debt and sold what little property they had to pay the king's taxes. They also sold their sons and daughters into slavery to provide food for their wives and the rest of their children. Nehemiah observed this injustice committed on the poor and decided to do the right thing and speak out against it.

First he tells the nobles and officials that they were wrong in their treatment of those who had returned from exile — that they failed the poor by taking advantage of them in their need — taking their property and reselling it. Nehemiah had the courage to speak out against the injustice done to the poor.

After hurricane Isabel, there are still injustices inflicted on those who have losses. There are still insurance companies and other

agencies out there that promised to provide in times of crisis, but have changed the policies to keep from assisting financially as they promised. The poor are left with no protection to help them during their loss. Some are still left in the dark with no power and light to see their way through.

Those of us who came through the storm are to be sensitive to others who sustained greater losses. As we get our lives back to normal, let us not forget the poor and homeless in our communities. We should support those agencies that provide food and shelter during times of crisis.

Second, Nehemiah challenged those of his countryman to do what is right by not becoming complacent and sitting back doing nothing. We are a community and a people who will respond greatly in a crisis, but we should not wait until a crisis to do what is right. We ought to always give our fellow man a helping hand regardless of the season. God doesn't need a storm or a war to draw people together and to teach them how to love and care for each other. Love can be displayed during and after any crisis. Only then will we know that we are brothers and sisters created in the image of God.

Third, to do the right thing must



**Chaplain (Maj.) Wilbert Harrison
Deputy Post Chaplain**

start with each individual. Nehemiah did the right thing when he said, "I and my brothers and my men are also lending the people money and grain. But let the usury stop! Give back to them immediately their fields, vineyards, olive groves and houses, and also the usury you are charging them, the hundredth part of the money, grain, new wine and oil" Nehemiah 5:10,11. To do the right thing must always start with the individual.

Proverbs 3:27,28 states "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor; "come back later; I'll give it tomorrow" when you have it with you."

Remember we are our brother's keeper, so let us keep doing the right thing after Isabel.

Baseball stars set aside careers for military

My husband and I recently marked seven years of wedded bliss. As a type of celebration, the love of my life decided we should go somewhere for the weekend. His choice? Cooperstown, N.Y. ... be still my heart.

When we arrived in Cooperstown, I was surprised to see it did not resemble my preconceived notion of a factory metropolis encroaching on the hallowed ground of baseball fans. And I was relieved to find it had more to offer than that for which it has become so famous.

It was quaint — located on the tip of Lake Otsego, and surrounded on both sides by tall hills. Cooperstown is a well-preserved small town, with small-town charm, settled by William Cooper.

While William Cooper did not mean much to me, his son's name certainly did. James Fenimore Cooper, author of "Last of the Mohicans," "The Pioneers," and "The Deer Slayer," was born in Cooperstown. Many of James Fenimore Cooper's stories were set in and around the Cooperstown area.

This village also plays host to the Farmers'

Museum, the Cooperstown Brewing Company, the Fenimore House Museum and several other wonderful attractions. One of those attractions is, of course, the National Baseball Hall of Fame, for which the town is most famous.

Admission to the Hall of Fame, as well as the Farmers' Museum, is free for military personnel. There are several different displays to visit, but the one we spent the most time at was the wall of fame with all the plaques of the inductees. The reason? We did not just look up our favorite players from days gone by, we visited each plaque that was decorated with a military disk identifying branch of the military in which the player served.

I was familiar with Ted Williams' service in the Marines during World War II and the Korean War, and I knew Pee Wee Reese was in the Navy during World War II. But I did not realize that so many ball players served in the military from 1942 to the Korean War. In all, one Hall of Famer served in the Civil War, 25 members served in World War I, 35 members and more than 500 major league players served in World

War II, and five Hall of Fame members served in the Korean War.

For example, Ernie Banks, Whitey Ford and Willie Mays were all in the Army during the Korean War. During World War II, Yogi Berra served in the Navy and was stationed on a rocket launcher off the coast of Normandy Beach just after D-Day, while Leon Day, who was drafted into the Army, participated in Normandy after landing on Utah Beach with an amphibian unit.

Hoyt Wilhelm, whose knuckleballer won 143 games including a record 124 out of the bullpen and who started for the Orioles in 1958 where he pitched a no-hitter against the Yankees, served in the Army and earned a Purple Heart during the Battle of the Bulge.

Bob Feller was the first major leaguer to volunteer for active duty, enlisting in the Navy just two days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He served as an anti-aircraft gunner on the battleship Alabama with the Third Fleet, which fought in battles at Tarawa, Iwo Jima and the Marshall Islands. The Hall of Fame pitcher

(See BASEBALL, Page 8)

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Carpenter beats stereotypes among women, Hispanics

From pregnant teen to proud senior NCO

BY PATRICK BUFFETT

CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

If society had its way, Master Sgt. Venus Carpenter never would have donned an Army uniform.

She wouldn't have achieved her 20th year of service, and she wouldn't be on her way to the Army's most demanding NCO professional development course – the Sergeants Major Academy.

"Teachers, my high school counselor, a lot of people just gave up on me," Carpenter said, recalling her teen years in New York's South Bronx. "I got pregnant when I was 16 and, as far as society in general was concerned, that was it. I was expected to remain the stereotypical poor, uneducated, unwed mom on welfare and living in a rundown neighborhood."

Carpenter, nee Negron, clearly chose not to accept her preordained role, and the story of her climb to the Army's highest enlisted rank is particularly fitting given the ongoing observance of Hispanic Heritage Month. Concluding Oct. 15, Fort Monroe's celebration was significantly waylaid by the turmoil of Hurricane Isabel, but organizers still managed several eye-catching displays highlighting famous Hispanics in history.

"My mother was born in Puerto Rico," said Carpenter, who now serves as the TRADOC retention operations NCO at DCSPIL. "She



Master Sgt. Venus Carpenter

raised four of us – all girls – on her own. She did the best she could, considering the many barriers she faced; I'll always love her for that.

"I think our neighborhood pretty much fit the definition of ghetto," Carpenter continued. "There were a lot of condemned buildings and people living and hanging out on the streets."

Noting how easy it would have been to lose herself in that world, Carpenter said she became "more determined than ever" to remain in school while providing for her newborn. Between minimum wage evening and weekend jobs and homework, she said 16 to 18 hour days were not uncommon.

"For work, I did a bunch of different things. I even worked in a

pathology lab at one point," she said. "I knew I could easily qualify for welfare, but I didn't want to do that. I wanted to make it on my own.

"And I'm proud to say I graduated on time," Carpenter added with one of her typical beaming smiles. Much of her conversation was also accented by an animated swoosh of the hand. And she can be a bit "touchy, feely" at times, she admitted. "I've read that this is part of my culture. Personal space is really a problem for us."

With a regents high school diploma in hand, Carpenter set her sights on those things that lay beyond her impoverished South Bronx neighborhood – different people, different countries, better paying jobs. Her uncle had regaled the family with stories of his Army career, and she realized that was her way out.

"I turned 18 during my third week of basic training (at Fort Jackson, S.C.)," Carpenter said. "Unlike a lot of others my age, though, I had no doubt whatsoever that I would make it to graduation. After all, I was already used to being up at 5 or 6 a.m. and going non-stop until midnight or later. Plus a daughter, school and a job ... multi-tasking wasn't a problem."

Continuing to draw strength from the love of family and the determination to make something of herself, Carpenter said she easily overcame the hardships of boot camp. "And remember it was 1983

so they were still allowed to mess with your head.

"We had drill sergeants who would walk around behind us with scissors during inspections," she said. Her right hand traveled to the back of her neck where the hairline was easily an inch off the collar – well within Army regs. "I've pretty much always worn my hair short, and it was even shorter than this at the time. But they still walked up behind me and snipped off a piece of hair, which they handed to me while telling me to get a haircut. They almost broke my spirit that day; it was the first time I cried. That was the one thing I thought I had together ... that they wouldn't be able to gig me on."

Looking back on that experience, and others like it, however, Carpenter said she witnessed an interesting dynamic of ethnic diversity.

"You know it really didn't matter during basic training if someone was Hispanic, African American or whatever," she said, leaning forward to add emphasis to her point. "We all shared a common bond (surviving until graduation) and, on many days, a common enemy – the drill sergeant. Differences were transparent. Maybe there's a lesson there."

Continuing on to earn her initial military occupational specialty – 71L, administrative specialist – Carpenter's first, and longest, duty station was Fort Stewart, Ga. For a single mom who battled her way

(See CARPENTER, Page 15)

Futures Center to integrate development of tomorrow's Army

BY JIM CALDWELL

TRADOC NEWS SERVICE

FORT MONROE, Va. — Training and Doctrine Command activated a Futures Center at Fort Monroe Oct. 1 that's a "revolutionary change" to manage not only the creation of the Army's Future Force but to keep the Army prepared for current and future challenges.

"It's really an exciting concept because we're going to bring together all of the activities that have been somewhat diffused throughout the staff, through training centers and other agen-

cies," said Maj. Gen. Robert Nixon, most recently TRADOC's Deputy Chief of Staff for Developments (DCSDEV), and the deputy commander of the new organization.

"Gen. (Kevin P.) Byrnes (TRADOC commander) is leading change and we're going to be the engine, if you will."

In an interview with Inside the Army Oct. 3, Nixon noted that while the concept for the Futures Center has been approved, the organization itself is still provisional.

"So we are operating under a mandate through Gen. Byrnes where the senior leadership was aware of this work," Nixon said. "But it is provisional – we are working our way along and we are perfectly willing to adjust as required to have the organization established and approved."

Activating the Futures Center is part of TRADOC Transformation. It consolidates all of the futures work into one center, which will have the capability to lead the complicated, technical and fast-moving transformation of the Army to the Future Force.

The center will also perform joint developments along with the Joint Forces Command and the Air Force, Navy and Marines.

"TRADOC has always been a concepts-based organization, but I do think that what TRADOC is looking at with the Futures Center is certainly not evolutionary," said Lt. Gen. John Riggs, director of the Objective Force Task Force. "It is revolutionary change that Gen. Byrnes has envisioned."

Riggs, who supports formation of the Futures Center, said he became director of the OFTF about two years ago. The task force's charter was to serve as the central point of contact for all work being done by all agencies and major commands on the Objective Force.

Members of the task force are soldiers, civilians and contractors, some of whom will join the Futures Center.

The Futures Center, unlike a task force created for a specific purpose with a limited life, is not a temporary answer to making the Future Force a reality. Even after current Army forces transition to the new organizations and systems, Futures Center has a never-ending job to ensure the Army retains dominant capabilities to bring about victory on any battlefield.

"There's no end state here — not 2012 or 2017 or any other year," Nixon said. "The Futures Center is an organization solely focused on building and integrating the capabilities we need for tomorrow's fight in time to have it and to integrate it into the current force so that we don't have two or three different Armies when the Future Force begins to emerge. It will always be a work in progress."

The new command will have the lead on developing new materiel, concepts, doctrine, training and leader development. It will also conduct experimentation in all those areas.

The general officer who will command Futures Center has not yet been selected.

When it is fully operational, the Futures Cen-

(See FUTURES, Page 9)



Photo by Wes Anderson

Maj. Gen. Robert W. Nixon, left, Mike Starry, center, and Allan Resnick officially open TRADOC's "Futures Center" Oct. 3 on Fort Monroe. Nixon is the acting director of the Futures Center; Starry is the assistant director; and Resnick is the director of requirements integration.

News clips



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

Helping hands ... *Spc. Joshua Smith, a Fort Story soldier, piles boxes of books that were salvaged from the post library on a truck, Oct. 2. Many books were destroyed during the hurricane. See story page 10.*

Hispanic Heritage Month observance

Retired colonel to reflect on his culture during program Oct. 14

Bob Garcia, a contractor here and retired Army officer, will give a one-hour talk on “Hispanic Family Reflections” as part of the post’s ongoing Hispanic Heritage Month observance starting at noon, Oct. 14, at the Bay Breeze Community Center (formally known as the Fort Monroe Club). This is a brown-bag lunch.

The retired colonel will reflect on Hispanic culture, language and values while growing up in South Texas, and give his thoughts on the assimilation of his generation into American culture.

The program is free and open to the public,

and registration is not required. A sign language interpreter will be on site.

Graduating from Texas A&M University-Kingsville in 1972 as a Distinguished Military Graduate with a bachelor’s in education, Garcia served in the U.S. Army for more than 30 years, before retiring Jan. 1. Garcia also holds a master’s in transportation management from Florida Institute of Technology and spent a year with AMTRAK as a trainee under the Army’s Training With Industry program.

Among Garcia’s favorite active duty assignments were: chief of the Berlin duty train ferrying passengers and freight from Berlin to Bremerhaven and Frankfurt through the former East Germany; and commander of the military

port in New Orleans, La. Also satisfying, he said, was his three-year assignment as a professor of logistics at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) in Washington, D.C., where he taught an elective course on the North American Free Trade Agreement and the implications of economic and psychosocial relations between Mexico and the United States, especially along the border region.

Garcia’s last military assignment before retirement was director of the Deployment Process Modernization Office at Fort Eustis. He is currently employed as an Army contractor to TRADOC’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Developments as a senior staff analyst at the C4ISR Directorate.

For more information, call 788-3422.

Oktoberfest cancellation

Oktoberfest, scheduled for 6 p.m. at the Bay Breeze Community Center on Oct. 10, has been cancelled.

PX closure

On Columbus Day, Oct. 13, the following Fort Monroe Exchange facilities will be closed: Main PX, military clothing sales, Class Six Shoppette, barber shop, cleaners, alterations and gift shop.

Soldier Appreciation Day

Soldier Appreciation Day is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 17.

In order for the MPs and Infantry soldiers to participate in this day of fun, 28 volunteers are needed to help at the gate. Shifts last two hours during the 6 a.m., Oct. 17 to 6 a.m. Oct. 18 time period.

No weapon is required, and there will always be an armed DACP present during the volunteer tour of duty.

Contact SSgt. Houston by phone at 788-2957 or by email at houstonr@monroe.army.mil not later than close of business Oct. 14.

Holiday operating hours

The following are operating hours for a few Fort Monroe offices/activities for the period Oct. 10-13. Chaplain’s Office closed. In case of an emergency, call the MP’s at 788-2238, and they will have the chaplain on duty contact you. Dental Clinic closed. For emergencies go to Tignor Dental Clinic, Fort Eustis.

Health Clinic closed. For emergency medical treatment, go to the nearest emergency room. Emergency rooms are located at Sentara, Riverside, Mary Immaculate and Langley Air Force Base hospitals. For non-emergency medical needs, call TRICARE at 1-800-931-9501 or go to Fort Eustis, MacDonald Army Community Hospital or Langley Air Force Base Hospital. POC at the Craven Army Health Facility is Tony Demestihis at 314-8044.

Library prize winner

Joanne Re is the winner of the Fort Monroe library card sign-up month prize. She received a gift certificate for brunch for four at the Bay Breeze Community Center.

Off limits area

Effective immediately, the Post Commander has determined that the Walker Airfield area is off limits to all unauthorized personnel. Additionally, there will be no dumping or removal of storm debris by individuals. Storm debris is to be placed in dumpsters either in admin or at the curb in housing areas. Individuals requiring assistance for removal of debris should contact Joe Hill, DPW, at 788-3269.

Orderly Room relocation

HHC TRADOC and Fort Monroe orderly room has been temporary relocated to 318 Cornog (DPW Building 28), rooms 235 and 236. All telephone numbers and fax lines are unchanged.

2X4 nat’l
Mortg.

2 X 3 1/2
SLM

2x3 Pines
Golf Course

RECOVERY (Continued from Page 1)

economically feasible,” the post commander said. Another option was to take down all of Wherry in “one shot,” but that would have posed the greatest inconvenience to families, Allmendinger said. “So we went with the option that offered the lesser inconvenience while staying smart with the dollars we’ll need to spend.”

Deadline for Wherry residents

Wherry residents were given the deadline of close of business today to hand in a survey describing their housing plans during the reconstruction. Command officials said they were “very confident” that adequate space could be opened up within Wherry and the remaining government housing on post to accommodate families displaced during both phases of construction. “The priority will be military families beginning with the lowest enlisted rank,” Simoneau said. “Displaced officers and senior NCOs will not have priority over lower enlisted.”

Single or unaccompanied soldiers were told during the town hall meetings that they would need to “seek other accommodations.” Residents not stationed at Fort Monroe were also encouraged to contact their assigned installation’s housing office immediately, as they would also receive a lower priority.

Simoneau also assured residents who receive official notification to relocate that the government would pay for local moving expenses. That does not include temporary storage or utility fees, or if the family chose not to accept the alternate housing offered.

“We realize there are going to be a lot of questions, and probably some confusion, throughout this project,” Allmendinger told the residents.

“Please keep the lines of communication open. Talk to the housing office. Talk to each other.”

The newly funded youth center annex is also likely to stir up a lot of interest among post residents, Simoneau said. The 4,000-square-foot, \$650,000 facility will feature two large activity rooms and a youth-activities-approved kitchen. A breezeway will connect the new facility to the CAC.

“We’re pretty fortunate that this came along when it did,” Simoneau said. “The status of Building 98, as well as the other World War II wood in that area near Joint Task Force – Civil Support, is uncertain at present. Whether or not additional disaster relief funds are made available will determine their fate.”

Among the buildings in question are those that housed hourly-care and after-school-drop-off. For more information about the status of those services, see CDC, Page 9.

ACS in Quarters 1

Temporarily working out of Quarters 1 inside the moat, the Army Community Services office was also displaced by Isabel’s flood damage. If adequate funding is made available, Simoneau said the command is eyeing one of the open areas near the CAC for a new ACS building.

“It just makes sense because that’s a community service function,” Simoneau said. “It’s more convenient to base residents if those services are centrally located.”

The building ACS used to work out of also housed the post office. “We’ve informed the postmaster that the space was no longer available. It’s up to them whether they want to try to establish another location on Fort Monroe or settle with the services that are already provided

right down the road in Phoebus.”

Non-operational heating and air conditioning units are another tick mark in the “bad news” arena, according to Simoneau. Any system located at ground or basement level probably needs to be replaced for safety reasons, he said. The saltwater that flooded Monroe is highly corrosive; and, over the long run, does damage that could result in electrical fires.

“Fortunately, we’ve been blessed with mild weather so the situation hasn’t created major problems for us,” Simoneau said. “But we realize we’re racing the clock, and we’ve made those repairs one of our top priorities.”

Another item in the “good news” column is the ongoing effort to put basement and first-floor level offices back in working order, according to Simoneau. In at least three main office buildings – one of them being Building 5, which houses NERO, DCSRM, DCSPIL and others – contractors have beat potential mold and mildew problems (see CATASTROPHE TEAM, Page 11), and work has begun on new sheet rock and flooring.

“I can’t even begin to describe the level of commitment all of our contractors have shown in getting this installation back into working order,” Simoneau said. “I’ve received numerous emails from community members who said they were amazed by the progress that has been made in such a short time. That credit needs to go to the teams out there who are pouring their hearts into these projects.”

Acknowledging projects that are ongoing, or will start in the very near future, Simoneau has agreed to a continuing series of articles in future issues of the Casemate.

3X3 1/2 United Negro College Fund

3X7 Holiday

3X3 1/2 Williamsburg golf course

Army Claims Service can help recoup losses caused by Isabel

Fort Monroe, Wherry Housing residents eligible to file

BY CAPT. MELINDA S. B. ECENRODE
POST JUDGE ADVOCATE OFFICE

Hurricane Isabel brought terrible damage to Fort Monroe. Not only were post landmarks damaged, trees uprooted, and offices flooded, but entire homes and personal possessions of Fort Monroe residents were destroyed.

Many residents had private insurance that covered their losses, but many others did not and that left too many servicemembers living on Fort Monroe suffering with no immediate help for their losses.

As a result of the extreme damage Hurricane Isabel brought, all Fort Monroe residents, including those in Wherry Housing, who suffered losses to their personal property (whether they were insured or not) can now file claims for their

losses or deductible with the Army Claims Service. Briefly, here is how the system works.

If you are a Fort Monroe resident and had private insurance (either renters, auto, or both), then you must file with your private insurance company first. After you have settled with your private insurance company and have received a full payment, partial payment, or denial from them, you may file with the Army Claims Service for your deductible or for losses not covered.

If you are a Fort Monroe resident and did not have private insurance, then your first step is to file with the Army Claims Service. Army claims may be able to pay for some of your losses, but we must apply depreciated values to all items lost.

When filling out the claims paperwork, it is imperative that you include the estimated purchase date and price. Please include receipts and photographs of damaged items if possible.

Don't forget to file a claim for food lost if your insurance company did not cover it or only covered it for less than \$100. The Army Claims Service can pay up to \$100 for food without proof of receipt and up to \$500 for food with proof of receipts.

Please come by the claims office, located on the second floor of the Post Headquarters (Bldg. 77), between 8 a.m.- 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday, to pick up a claims packet. If you have a question about how to fill out the packet, someone in the claims office will assist you.

The standard time limit for filing is two years from the date of disaster. So if you need some time, take it. You have until Sept. 18, 2005. If you do need time to gather the necessary information for your claims, don't forget to document your losses with pictures and receipts. It makes the claims examiner's job easier, and you get your losses covered more quickly.

After you have filed with your personal insurance company and/or the Army Claims Service, and you still have losses, you may contact outside agencies that have been set up to assist victims of natural disasters.

You can call FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) at 1-800-621-FEMA and register for help. You should have the following information available when you call them: a number where you can be reached, your SSN, a current mailing address, the address of the affected property, a brief description of the damages, and any insurance information, including your policy numbers. You should use Hampton as your city address, but indicate Fort Monroe in parentheses. You can also contact the American Red Cross at 1-866-GET-INFO.

For more information, call the Post Judge Advocate's Office, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:45 p.m., at 788-3616 or 2157.

ACS provides job-search assistance for spouses

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

The Army Community Service employment readiness program provides job search assistance for spouses of military members, DA civilians, their spouses and adult children. Active-duty military members can only receive assistance in locating part-time employment through this program. For full-time employment after discharge, they must first receive Army Career and Alumni Program counseling; then, they can participate in this program.

"We provide resume writing assistance and try to help the spouse locate employment. We have access to federal, state and local government and private-industry jobs. Nonappropriated fund job information for Forts Monroe and Eustis comes directly to me," Bill Smith, employment readiness program manager said. He also helps with Resumix document preparation.

Smith sometimes refers job seekers to NexStep or Navy Fleet and Family Support for specialized training. After training has been completed, Smith will assist in locating suitable employment.

A myriad of equipment and aids are available for job seeker use, including computers, telephones, fax machines, copiers and resume-writing guides. E-mail addresses and URLS can be provided to expedite applying for jobs online.

For more information, contact Smith at 788-3878 or smithw@monroe.army.mil.

(Note: Due to the flooding of building 36, Army Soldier and Support Center, ACS has moved temporarily to Quarters 1 in the moat.)

4X10 GEICO Ins.

AAFES makes refunds easier

DALLAS – As part of AAFES continuing effort to better serve customers, effective Oct. 21, AAFES will honor all requests for non-receipt refunds by issuing a new AAFES Merchandise Card, which is the same as a Gift Card. The new Merchandise Gift Card can be used the same as cash to purchase any items in your PX/BX.

This new option offers customers more flexi-

bility than ever before by applying credit to a convenient, easy-to-carry card.

While the refund policy with a receipt has not changed, the ultimate goal of this new program is for AAFES customers to be completely satisfied with their purchases and to make the return/exchange process as simple as possible.

4X12 Verizon Wireless

September Employee of the Month

Directorate: DCFA, Child and Youth Services

Job/position and duties: Chief, Child and Youth Services

How long at current assignment: 15 years

How long in govt./military service: 20 yrs

Where do you live: Yorktown

Family: Husband - Hans, Children: Joleen, David, Alyson

Outside activities: skiing, hiking, choir, kid's chauffeur, travel

Accomplishments: mother of 3 terrific kids, AUSA Civilian of the Year, Commander's Award for Exceptional Service, Elementary and Middle School teacher, supervisor of the best CYS program in the Army

Goals: Travel more, definitely exercise more, do more community service projects, keep on learning and trying new things, spend more time with family

Other comments: I would like to thank the individual who nominated me for this award. I am extremely grateful for this recognition but can only attribute any of my success to the dedicated and outstanding people I work with.



Susan E. Searles

BASEBALL _____

(Continued from page 2)

authored three no-hitters and a record-sharing 12 one-hitters, compiled 266 wins and struck out 2,581 batters in his 18-year career, despite missing four years of his prime because of World War II.

Warren Spahn was the winningest left-handed pitcher in history with 363 wins. He served three years as a combat engineer during World War II, saw action during the Battle of the Bulge, was wounded in the foot and survived the collapse of the Remagen Bridge in Germany.

Phil Rizzuto, and Stan Musial, to name a couple, were both in the Navy. Joe DiMaggio was in the Army Air Corps, as was Hank Greenberg and Enos Slaughter.

Jackie Robinson was in the Army and was stationed at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., which happens to be in my backyard. In fact, Robinson signed his historic contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers while at Camp Breckenridge!

Something else I did not know was that Happy Chandler, who I knew was a United States senator and a governor of Kentucky, was baseball's commissioner from 1945-1951. I found this out when I saw his Hall of Fame plaque with a military disk recognizing his World War II service in the Army.

America's favorite pastime was secured by those who served in our other, but least favorite pastime: war. When I look at all the men, Hall of Famers or not, who took time out from their ball careers to protect this country and our way of life, a service disk hardly seems like enough recognition.

(By Spc. Rachael Tolliver, a journalist with the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y.; courtesy Army News Service)

Child Development staff relocates after buildings sustain damage

BY CONNIE SMALLS
CASEMATE EDITOR

When the floodwaters receded and the sun came out, the three buildings that housed staff and children from post’s Child Development Center were still standing. The big bad wolf with its 60-plus mile-per-hour winds hadn’t blown down the main, brick building or the two wooden (admin and School-Age Services) buildings, a couple hundred yards away. All three looked like they had survived Isabel.

Looks can be deceiving. The wooden buildings (where Patch Road ends at Fenwick, across from the Bowling Center) sustained terminal damage due to the flooding. They were uninhabitable.

Fortunately the main, red brick building, built in the mid-90s, was designed to be hurricane-proof, according to Susan Searles, Child and Youth Services coordinator.

“It was constructed on land that had been built-up, so it’s elevated,” she said. “And, as close as we were to the seawall, it’s amazing the little damage that was done. It was made to withstand hurricanes, and it did.”

Since just about a foot of water came in under the doors, Searles and her team thought that sanitizing the rugs would be the extent of the cleanup. But after contractors

evaluated the moisture levels in the wallboard around the doors, they immediately started a plan to correct it, she said.

That was Thursday, Sept. 25. Three days later, new carpet had been installed in half the building, and the wallboard had been replaced and painted. Searles and her staff came in on Sunday to wipe things down prior to opening the next day.

“I am so impressed by all the contractors that were hired to help us through this.”

“It was a miracle,” she said. “I am so impressed by all the contractors that were hired to help us through this.

“I’m grateful to my staff, we’d been cleaning for over a week and trying to salvage what we could from buildings 95 and 98. It was gross – they were so moldy, dirty and smelly, and we just had to get the carpet up.

“I have to thank Sergeant Major Browning for sending over a detail to remove the carpet so we could work in there. He’s always been there for us.”

In spite of the terrible working conditions in the wooden buildings, staff members couldn’t help but

reminisce about where they all started, Searles said.

It (building 95) was built in 1940, and it had been Fort Monroe’s main child-care facility since 1970.

“It’s sad. We loved that building. A lot of the main CDC staff started there. We all started there,” Searles said. “We took care of hundred kids in that building.”

The building eventually became the home of School-Age Services (SAS) and hourly care with about 40 children in the after-school program and about 10 going there before school.

The SAS program has temporarily relocated to the gym in the Community Activities Center, and the hourly care program is operating from the main Child Development Center as of Sept. 29.

“The hourly care is a difficult fix because the standards that have to be in place for child-care facilities for children under the age of 5 are very strict,” Searles said. “They (the post) have to find a building that meets the basic life safety code standards for children. It’s not easy, but I know there are people working to make that happen – and I’m grateful.”

In the meantime, Searles said there are two “wonderful” family child-care providers who are home-based in post housing who just happen to live next to each other.

Their quarters sustained some flooding in the cellars, but it didn’t

affect their child-care operation, Searles said. They had some spaces available for hourly care and anyone interested should call the CDC, she said.

Another age group that’s been displaced since the storm is the middle school children who used to meet in building 98. Their program originally operated from the Community Activities Center, and they’re being reabsorbed there.

“The teen program (ages 14-18) is temporarily on hold until we can get the other programs into a routine,” Searles said. “Priority is for the kids who can’t be home by themselves. Second priority is the middle school kids in grades 6, 7 and 8.”

CYS admin personnel from buildings 95 and 98 have setup a temporary base from the computer lab at the CAC and are running central registration from there.

Charlie French, post school liaison officer, is operating from an office at the Outdoor Recreation Center.

All phone numbers have been transferred to the staff’s current locations.

Please refer to the following list for individual phone numbers. To make hourly care reservations, call the main CDC at 788-5960. CYS admin and central registration is at 788-2343. For Middle School and School Age Service contact 788-3957.

FUTURES (Continued from Page 3)

ter will represent a consolidation of functions and skills, not a reduction in personnel.

“Creating the Futures Center is a zero-sum action in terms of financial resources and manpower,” Mixon said. “We will not take resources, manpower or missions from TRADOC integrating centers and schools.”

DCSDEV and the DCS for Doctrine, Concepts and Strategy (DCSDCS) organization at TRADOC headquarters will be absorbed by the new center. The only change for individuals in those agencies is working in a new organization.

Mixon also said that the primary work of developing concepts and requirements will continue to be done at the training centers, the proponents for each Army branch. The Futures Center staff will provide direction, oversight and assistance to the proponents.

The Futures Center will focus TRADOC’s task to accomplish three core missions. Army Accessions Command at Fort Monroe recruits enlisted soldiers and officers. Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., ensures soldiers are trained and leaders are developed for the Future Force. Futures Center helps build systems and organizations for the future Army.

“We will form a powerful change engine in an organization focused on concepts development and experimentation,” said Brig. Gen. David Fastabend, the DCSDCS in the old system who now heads the Concept Developments and Experimentation Directorate for the Futures Center. “The design of the organization allows us to take an idea from the exploration phase of development, in wargames, for example, to more advanced stages of verification in experiments.”

All phases of development must also show that they will enhance joint operational concepts. The Futures Center staff will work with their counterparts in the Air Force, Navy and Marines to coordinate developments and ensure there is true benefit to joint operations.

“The Futures Center can’t do anything that isn’t joint,” Mixon said. “In fact, the Futures Center will operate from a ‘born joint’ perspective.

“We have a liaison cell that lives and works with Joint Forces Command. We’re going to strengthen and improve that cell because Joint Forces Command is going to be a key link for us doing our work.

“We’re going to have links to other services and their battle labs and capabilities so that we’ll know what each other is doing, and we can learn from each other and grow together.”

That view is shared at the top levels of the Department of Army organization.

“With the current emphasis on jointness, an integrating center such as the Futures Center will ensure that the Army will be speaking with one voice in the deliberations of requirements in the Joint Forces Command,” said Walter W. Hollis, the Deputy Undersecretary of the Army for Operations Research.

Adm. Edmund P. Giambastiani Jr., JFCOM commander, agrees that linking the services is crucial to future success in the joint arena.

“(JFCOM) relies on the collective wisdom and shared understanding of a common purpose from the joint, interagency and multinational communities to effect true change over the entire force and for future coalitions,” he said.

“The importance of modifying our current military structures to meet new and dangerous military challenges is apparent.”

The first review of force and systems designs developed within Futures Command oversight is a board chaired by the TRADOC commander as the executive agent for change. Board membership consists of Army Staff and Secretariat acquisition experts, plus general officer leadership from around the Army.

“Under Gen. Byrnes’ leadership we can make sure the capabilities are integrated, that the systems work effectively together and the issues are clear,” Mixon said.

Those requirements that get a passing grade from that board are forwarded to the Army Requirements Oversight Committee where they undergo another reality check. Developments approved at the AROC are forwarded to the Joint Requirements Oversight Committee to make sure they pass the joint test.

The JROC represents a new approach to military developments, according to Riggs. He said requirements development traditionally began within each service. It took a great “selling job” to get approval at successive higher review levels.

“There is a process at the joint level for determining what capabilities are needed,” he said. “It’s now being envisioned to emanate from the top down.

“TRADOC is reorganizing itself to accomplish that top-down joint capabilities integration requirements process. I think the Futures Center is probably more holistic than merely activating a new organization,” Riggs said.

Post library sustains damage in Isabel’s aftermath



Mold grows on reference books that were casualties of the hurricane.



Books and manuals lay soaked in saltwater Sept. 26.

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Powerful water forced its way into the unsuspecting library. Relentlessly, it pushed toppling bookshelf after bookshelf until hard bounds and paperbacks, alike, lay helplessly soaked on the cold, cold floor.

Battered, the casualties lay in the murky water. Irrepressible library staff and vigilant Fort Eustis and Story soldiers came to the rescue transporting books to the library’s second floor or to outside containers.

“We’ve lost some collections; but, we can still get books for you and provide services we used to.” Karen Lewis said optimistically.

Among the injured, was the “Coast Artillery Journal” which was produced at Fort Monroe when it was an artillery school (during the late 19th and early 20th centuries). Believed to be the only complete journal in existence, it will be preserved by BMS Cat through a freeze-drying process. (See BMS Cat article)

“Cost for preserving books is more than it costs to buy new ones. The things we lost from storage we can get from other sources. Everything in this building that was tossed [out]



Photos by Tim Renick

The main floor at the post library shows the mess Isabel served up, with shelves down and the novels’ section in disarray more than a week after the major flooding occurred.

either had mold or was rusting. We saved everything we could. If we attempt to save questionable books, they could mold and infest the entire collection,” Lewis said.

Copies of other publications that have been destroyed can be obtained through the Interlibrary Loan Network. All libraries are connected worldwide so books can be sent from anywhere. Books are shipped by regular mail, so allow a few

days for delivery.

Although the library is officially closed until further notice, the staff will try to accommodate patrons by setting up appointments to meet them on post to provide books or materials they want.

Access to the library is restricted for safety reasons, so call instead of dropping in. For more information, contact the library staff at 788-2909.

Lessons learned

Family from ‘tornado state’ rides out first hurricane

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Although used to tornadoes, Oklahoma native Maj. Robert Whetstone had never experienced a hurricane.

“You have plenty of time to prepare for a hurricane. You track it for a couple of days, and you watch it with estimates of which way it is going. We started boarding up windows with whatever we had, taping them down and putting our little hurricane kit together – batteries, bottled water, etc. You have plenty of time. A tornado comes up on you without notice. We’re used to that, but this was a different experience,” Whetstone said.

Tornado experience has given him and his family an advantage, especially dealing with what happens afterwards. He described the aftermath of a tornado.

“It’s like someone dropped a bomb in your neighborhood – a pretty big bomb. Just like a tornado, devastation is the same with a hurricane, only you can get in front of a hurricane and leave. With a tornado, it’s coming – you’ve got to grab mattresses and go down in a basement to protect yourself.

Whetstone and his wife, Stephanie, grew up near Fort Sill, Okla. “The weather would normally pass over because of the gully or the Gulf Stream. So we would get a warning and just say, ‘yeah right, that won’t hit here.’ And keep watching TV or keep on with what we were doing, until we would hear a noise like a train. Then we would cover up. Otherwise it was business as usual for us. We did get kind of malaise a bit.

“There is an eerie calmness right before a tor-

nado comes. The wind can be blowing all day long; then it stops. Then there is hot and cold air back to back. If you feel that, you are almost too late to cover yourself. I’m kind of used to that.

“We didn’t know what to think of this hurricane, though. It was a category five, downgraded to a three then to a two, with winds of 75 miles an hour. Then we decided, ‘oh, it has 75 mile-an-hour winds, we get that in Oklahoma most days.’ Not knowing the rain, water and surf was going to come over the sea wall and break everything up.

“We’ve gone through one catastrophe where we lost everything except for one weeks-worth of clothes.”

“I’ve watched my neighbors go through all of this. We’ve gone through one catastrophe where we lost everything except for one weeks-worth of clothes. So, I know what this feels like.

“At Fort Lewis, my first duty station, we packed up and put all of our household goods in a warehouse for two days before they were going to be shipped to my next duty station. During the timeframe of those two days, someone burned the warehouse down. So, my family (and 61 other families) lost everything. We know what it is like to fill out those claim sheets and work with the insurance company. When I look at my neighbors, I shake my head because I can truly say that I empathize with them. Otherwise, I would feel lucky, but I know what they are going through.

Because of past losses, Whetstone offers some advice to those who have suffered loss of possessions at the hand of Isabel.

“If you can walk out your front door, you’ve won. Everything you’ve lost may have some sentimental value, but if you have all your faculties ... you can remember those things. You may not be able to look at them any more, you may not be able to grab them any more, but you still have your life. You need to be thankful for that. We learned that the hard way. So, next time I’m not going to stand here enamored by a hurricane, I’m leaving.

He stayed because he wanted to see what a hurricane was like which is very common desire. “I just kept thinking well, we’re on the second floor, we have an attic above us – a good 20 to 25 feet – and if the water gets that high, we’re gone. And, I didn’t think it would get that high. There was talk about surges of 8 to 10 feet. And, I wanted to see it. Not smart. Fortunately, for us it didn’t get that bad.

Whetstone described the surreal aftermath. “The next day we went around the post, at least as far as they would let us go. We went over and walked the top of the moat wall and looked down at all the flood waters where people were in canoes and rubber rafts.

My kids went out and found some tadpoles, some crabs and a flounder,” he said.

He said that his sons, Aaron (age 14) and Nicholas (age 10) had experienced tornado warnings and some high winds, but no bona fide tornadoes. Because of that, they helped secure the house by using cardboard and tape for the windows. He said that they seemed calm and not

(See FAMILY, Page 11)

Mold, mildew — who ya gonna call?

‘Catastrophe’ team rescues wet, damp post buildings

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Smaking clear plastic “balloons” and fans powerful enough to relocate papers, desk ornaments and small critters you didn’t even know were in your office, have appeared in many buildings on post. Charlie Cook, senior director, environmental health and safety for BMS Cat knows why. “They call me in if there is asbestos, lead, mold, drying, dehumidification, things like that,” Cook said.

BMS Cat – Blackmon, Mooring, Steamatic, Catastrophe – started 50 years ago making carpet cleaning machines using hot water extraction. Now, they handle fire, water, smoke, mildew and mold problems. “If a building gets flooded, shocked by water somehow (roof damage or sprinklers going off), in most cases heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) will not sufficiently dehumidify the building, air and hydroscopic materials like cubicles, sheet rock or wood. (Hydroscopic means very absorbent to water; porous.)

“We try, preferably in conjunction with the HVAC system that is existing, to add desiccant dehumidification. There are really two types of dehumidification. One is refrigerant, which we get out of normal HVAC. The way that dehumidifies, you have coils for cooling. The cooling will chill the water. As the air passes over it, the hot air will dump its moisture, just like when you get out of the shower and the mirror starts to create that film of moisture on it; it will slowly drop out the moisture. That is one way to dry it; and, we are using some refrigerants.

Dehumidification

“Desiccant dehumidification is a process where you super heat a desiccant wheel that has a silica-based desiccant in it; kind of like what you’ll find in food, a small package in it that says don’t eat this. This wheel turns at a certain rate and air passes through it and through the building. The air that we pass through it from the outside or recirculate through the building gets down to about 10 percent relative humidity, but it will be about 110 degrees coming out of the machine.

It’s very dry air. When it [the air] gets down to the living spaces, the temperature is not so intolerant. Cook described the basic set up for dehumidification. “We basically place a machine inside or outside the building, and we run soft tubing. It’s not super attractive, but it’s not hideously ugly either, and it’s real easy to maneuver in and out. We run these tubes and cut holes along the sections so we can distribute the air. Then we use blowers to keep the air moving in the building. What happens is that the first thing you notice is that the air feels good.

“We take readings all around the walls, carpets, whatever we can, that is not going to be ripped up, removed or demo’d, and we’ll see if we’re actually pulling the moisture out of it; which we are.

He said that some of the buildings, like Building 5, have been completely “demo’d out.” Like several others, furniture, four feet of sheetrock and baseboards are gone – down to the metal studs. The remainder is being dried out by BMS Cat.

Restoring books

BMS Cat also does work for archivists and will restore some of the post’s library books.

“Basically, we use vacuum freeze drying. It was something that was developed by the Library of Congress; they actually invented it for valuable documents. The reason is, what happens if our Constitution gets wet ... ?

“The first thing you do, if you have a bunch of wet books, documents, or whatever, is you want to freeze them. There are three phases of water: solid, liquid and gas or steam. The liquid phase of water is the damaging phase. If we put the stuff in a freeze locker, or a cold storage or in a portable refrigerating unit, which we have in our storage area, we can put the books in stasis – they won’t get any worse. Using regular refrigeration units, we just get the temperature down below 32 [degrees] and whatever is in the paper or on the books will freeze. Some people think that would damage them. But, if you can get to them quick enough, you won’t see any difference.

“Then what we do is ship those documents to our freeze-drying



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

Gerald Kalb (left), and Charlie Cook of BMS Cat, discuss meter readings at the Bay Breeze Community Center Oct. 6. Clear tubing under the ceilings distribute air through holes along the sections.

chambers. We are the largest freeze-drying company in the world. We’ve invested a lot of time into this. We have chambers in Fort Worth and Chicago. We take the books back there, and then we put them on special carts that have sensors and we drop the vacuum pressure way down. Even if you put wet books on there, water can’t exist as a liquid, it would turn immediately to ice. If we put in iced materials, because the vacuum is so great, we reach what is called the triple point of water. It’s an engineering thing. The triple point is where it can’t exist as a solid and it can’t exist as a liquid, so it turns into steam. So, we sublime it from a solid to steam and it never reaches that liquid phase. It actually goes to steam while it’s cold.

“There are other methods of doing books, like dehumidifying.

It’s not as good, but we have to use it sometimes, like when [we are] restoring materials that cannot be taken off site.

A moldy problem

Cook discussed the desiccation process and mold. “If you can get on it (mold) quickly, and do it correctly, you can avoid having a problem. And, if you did have a problem, with some minor cleaning, you can remove the odor really quickly. If you just let your building go and don’t do this, you would just have it crawling up the walls. That’s what it does. It is very opportunistic.

“You have enough water, a porous substance, and there are sufficient nutrients here. Mold has to have water to get started and a carbon-based source to digest like wood, leather, fiber or hair. Since

(See TEAM, Page 15)

FAMILY (Continued from page 10)

worried at all and slept well the night of the storm.

“In the morning, they woke up about the same time I did, which is unusual because I usually have to drag them out of bed. They put their gloves on and jumped out there and started dragging stuff away and cleaning up like everybody else. They were great. We went to Wood-

bridge for a couple of days and when we came back, they helped neighbors pull their stuff out. I’m pretty proud of them.

As far as the next hurricane goes, “Have the materials somewhere in your house to prepare it for the storm. Then, make arrangements to move your loved-ones away. It’s too risky to stay. I won’t stay again. That was a mistake I

made. I know better. Just like most people, I was curious, I wanted to see it. The smart thing is to prepare your home thoroughly. If you live downstairs, get your stuff up off the floor and out of the basement. Turn your appliances and electricity off. Take care of the things in your freezer and make arrangements to find a safe haven. Staying is not worth it.

Sports & Health



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

'Flintstone gym' in operation — *Tony Cicero, an IMA civil service employee, uses a leg press machine located on the ground floor of the Fitness Center Oct. 6. Because of the bare, concrete floor and partially demolished walls, this part of the gym has been referred to as the "Flintstone gym." Still, locker rooms and most of the weight equipment is accessible on this floor. The racquetball courts, electronic equipment (aerobic and anaerobic) and Fitlinxx computer are not currently available because of flood damage.*

Casemate seeks sports photo, story contributions

The wealth of fitness center, post and intramural sports, and youth activities on Fort Monroe often-times poses a bit of a challenge for the Casemate staff.

While we're committed to providing the widest range of coverage – to include standings, stories about playoffs or league championships, and photos throughout each season – our three staff members simply can't cover it all.

So, we're asking for help from players, parents and sideline fans.

The next time you head for the gym or a sporting event involving Fort Monroe participants, take your camera along and try your hand at shooting that once-in-a-lifetime sports or fitness activity photo. Make sure you jot down full names, positions, and a brief description of the action depicted. Then submit your work to the Casemate, located in Building 27 (next to the post medical clinic), or email: casemate@monroe.army.mil.

Digital photos are preferred.

Regular prints may also be submitted, but please keep in mind that we cannot develop rolls of film.

Here are a few tips for shooting good sports photos that stand the best chance of making it into print:

1) Get faces – the backs of players' heads aren't newsworthy.

2) Use a flash when possible – it's the best way to "freeze" the action and get a well-lit, in-focus photo.

3) Get close (without interfering with players of course) – far away shots from the stands, especially with a standard-quality camera, usually result in grainy, low-resolution photos.

When you submit your photo(s), also remember to include your full name for photo credit on the page. Sports stories are also welcome, however, the editor reserves the right to edit the material for journalistic style and syntax. The submitting writer's byline will be included on any story that makes it to print.

Local golf tourney honors military

The Fifth Annual Hampton Roads Military Classic of the South Scholarship Golf Tournament is scheduled for Nov. 11 at the Kiskiack Golf Club in Williamsburg

The tournament was established to help honor all who are serving or have served in the armed forces.

Every participant has an opportunity to win \$10,000 for a hole in one. Other prizes include those for

longest drive and closest to the pin and door prizes, in addition to the team competition prizes. Proceeds support local college scholarships of The Citadel and VMI.

Entry fee is \$65 per player. Registration deadline is Nov. 3.

For more information, contact Pete Hoyer via e-mail at pete.hoyer@eustis.army.mil, or phone 877-4022.

Sports Shorts

Youth Basketball

Fort Monroe Youth Sports will open registration Oct. 15 for the 2003-'04 basketball season.

Fees start at \$35 per child. All participants must be members of Child and Youth Services. Annual membership is \$15. A current physical is required before practice.

Volunteer coaches and assistant coaches are needed. All coaches and assistant coaches must be NYSCA, first aid and CPR certified. NYSCA class will be held Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. to noon at Youth Services, Building 221.

For information, call Mike Jones at 788-3957.

Youth Services Cheerleading

Youth sports cheerleading registration for children age 6-12 begins Oct 15. on Fort Monroe.

Fees start at \$30 per child. All participants must be members of Child and Youth Services. Annual membership fee is \$15. A current physical is required before practice.

Volunteer coaches and assistant coaches are needed and must be NYSCA certified.

Step out for the kids

The TowneBank family is sponsoring the 2003

Neptune Festival King's Walk for Kids.

Come and walk with J. P. Godsey, the "happiest man in America." The walk benefits the kids of Seton House, a local non-profit, non-sectarian organization that reunites kids with families.

Registration for the walk begins at 8 a.m. at the 24th Street Park and Boardwalk, and the walk begins at 9 a.m. Registration fee is \$10; all proceeds benefit the Seton House and Neptune Festival.

Parking is free at the 25th Street Municipal Garage before 9 a.m. Call Leah Weisman at (757) 417-6211 or Kim Williams at (757) 417-6212 for more information.

Dash for Christmas Cash 5K

Do you think the Army is in better shape than the Air Force? Think Air Force personnel can only ride exercise bikes? Then come out and prove it at the Air Force C2&ISR Center Dash for Christmas Cash 5K Nov. 7 at 8 a.m. at the Langley AFB Fitness Center.

Awards will be given to the top three over-all men and women finishers. Additionally, awards will be given to the best team and the top three over-all winners for men and women by age

groups (10-year increments). Great door prizes will also be given.

Registration is \$12 by Oct. 31 and \$15 afterward. For more information call Capt. Derek Bright at 225-4254, or TSgt. Joseph Whiteid at 225-0655.

Halloween Golf Classic

The 5th Annual Halloween Golf Classic, sponsored by Fort Monroe MWR, is scheduled for Oct. 21 at the Pines Golf Course on Fort Eustis.

The entry fee is \$45 per participant. Pines Golf Course members can enter for \$30. Four-person teams are required for the closest-to-the-pin competition.

Registration deadline is Oct. 17. For information, contact the Fort Monroe Sports Office at 788-2783 or email tutsonj@monroe.army.mil.

NSU vs. HU Football/Battle of Bands

Fort Monroe Youth Sport is hosting an Oct. 18 trip to the NSU vs. HU Football Game/Battle of Bands Competition.

Cost is \$9. Permission slip and cash must be turned in by Oct. 15. For information, call Mike Jones at 788-3957.

Post CSM aids Phoebus resident in getting Purple Heart award for father

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Charnick doesn't look like it, but he is a crusader of sorts. He could not rest until he honored the memory of his late father with a Purple Heart.

About two years ago, while thumbing through an old Bible, he found medical papers listing his father's war injuries. Loss of one eye, shrapnel embedded throughout his body and asthma-like breathing problems had plagued his father's life.

Although his other injuries would warrant the award, Charnick did not realize, until he knew of his father's exposure to mustard gas, that he was missing a Purple Heart. Before reading the papers, he had not associated breathing problems with his father's WWI service. The papers indicated that on Sept. 21, 1918, Pvt. Arthur J. Charnick, Sr. sustained the aforementioned battle wounds.

"During that time, there weren't any safeguards like there are now," Charnick said alluding to the use of mustard gas. The Geneva Convention has slowed down the use of chemical weapons by those who abide by it. But, his father fought before its inception.

"He was a patriot who would never say anything against this country ..."

"He was a patriot who would never say anything against this country or complain about his illness or injuries. He would never blame the United States; he loved this country. He never asked for anything ... it's too late for him to be compensated, but I'm doing this to honor his memory," Charnick said.

But, when Charnick tried to honor his father's service, he ran into dead ends. After almost two years of trying to obtain the Purple Heart, he went to the Civilian Personnel Office at Fort Monroe. There, he was encouraged to contact Anthony Browning, post command sergeant major.

"Mr. Charnick showed up in our office. Of course Sergeant Houston was the first one to get a grip on what his concern was," Browning

said. "He had a lot of information already, it's just that he did not know how to go about getting the medal. I took what he had and got what was needed to put a package together. He had no real proof.

The document Charnick had found in a Bible was from the Adjutant General of the Army. It said, "Mrs. Charnick, I'm sorry to inform you that your son has been severely wounded in battle." But that was inadequate proof.

"First of all, you don't send your original document, you send a copy ... then it's faxed to someone else. And, by the time it gets to the other end, it really looks doctored up. It looks like someone could have faked it," Browning said.

Browning contacted St. Louis, Mo. and determined what the package should look like. Then, he tried to locate Arthur Charnick's service record – it had been burned. He found that medical records could provide proof and contacted the VA hospital in Hampton where Arthur Charnick had received treatment until his death in 1967.

A friend of Charnick who worked at the VA hospital was able to locate the elder Charnick's medical records.

"One day he called me and said, 'Sergeant Major, guess what we've got here; we have Charnick's old medical record.' It showed how he had been traumatized, how he lost his eye and how many MDs had treated him, and handled his physicals and follow ups," Browning said.

"We merely laid out that information in a chronological sequence. Sergeant Houston put the package together professionally, in a binder; and we shipped it off to his congressman.

A few months later, Arthur Charnick's Purple Heart arrived at his son's home. It was a long time coming, but Arthur Charnick received his Purple Heart, posthumously, in an awards ceremony at the Casemate Museum Sept. 12.

"We wanted to have a ceremony where his family could get together and have a little closure to something that was really very heroic. And, we wanted to do it on a military installation. It's by regulation that we do it [for retirees]. It is not that we are such great people ... it's not just a nice thing to do. I helped him because he was soldier trying to get something for his father ... another soldier.



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

(l-r) William Charnick, Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, post commander and CSM Anthony Browning, post command sergeant major, discuss the award after the ceremony honoring Charnick's father Sept. 12 at the Casemate Museum.

3X10 USAA

Sharon L. Batala, pictured at right, a full-blood Hopi from the village of Bacavi in Arizona, is one of two guest speakers who have been invited to Monroe to participate in a Native American Heritage Month celebration Nov. 4 at the post theater. Batala will be joined by Michael Pavatea, also from the Hopi tribe. See the Oct. 24 issue of the Casemate for additional details.



Moat notes

Fortress Frame & Craft Shop

— **Ceramic workshops** - Tuesday evenings 4 - 7:30 p.m. Join open workshop classes every Tuesday evening and learn new fun ideas to decorate your home or make great gifts for your family and friends. New exciting items are in stock and ready for you to get to work on. New flower pots and candle lites are in stock - ladybugs and elephants. New shell dish is ready to adorn your home with just a little effort.

Our theme will be the aquarium with a great showcase done by our volunteers to give you the ideas you need to decorate. Stop by and visit. Workshops are free. Pay for supplies as you go.

Post Halloween parties

Children's Halloween Bowling Party - Oct. 25, beginning at noon. The Halloween party for kids 6 to 12 years old will take place at the bowling center. Cost is \$5 per child and includes a costume contest, games, shoes, hot dog and drink and a party bag. Call 788-2939 for more information.

Hallowswim at CAC pool - Oct. 31, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. - Halloween Customer Appreciation Day free swim with gifts for best costumes and giveaways for kids. Call 788-3301 for more information.

Helping Hands Food Drive

Girl Scouts will be collecting food for the Southeastern and Peninsula Foodbanks Oct. 11 throughout the greater Hampton Roads area. Place bagged, non-perishable food (i.e., canned meats, juice and vegetables, or prepackaged cereal or peanut butter) on your doorstep by 9 a.m. Girl Scouts will collect from 9 a.m. until noon.

Look for collection bags inserted in the Virginian-Pilot and Daily Press Sept. 28 editions or use any bag and label it "Girl Scout Food Drive."

For more information about joining Girl Scouts, call (757) 547-4405.

Phoebus Days

Oct. 11, VFW Post 3219 and its auxiliary will celebrate Phoebus Days. Rummage and baked goods sales begin at 9 a.m. Grilled food and beverage sales will run all day.

Book sale in Williamsburg

Friends of Williamsburg Regional Library sale of used books, videos, CDs and software will be held Oct. 24 - 26 at the Williamsburg Community Building, 410 North Boundary Street (across the street from the Williamsburg Library). Proceeds from the sale benefit the Williamsburg Regional Library.

Members of the Friends can beat the crowds and have first chance at the bargains Oct. 24 from 5 to 8 p.m. Friends memberships will be sold at the door for those wishing to take part in the Friday evening sale. Oct. 25, the public sale takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and continues Oct. 26, from 1 to 3 p.m.

For information, call Benjamin Goldberg at (757) 259-4042.

Ghost Walk at Endview

Endview Plantation will host its seventh annual Ghost Walk from 7 to 10 p.m. on Oct. 24 and 25. Lantern tours take guests through a haunted 1862 Civil War battlefield complete with grave robbers, ghostly apparitions and eerie creatures of the night. Witness an amputation, and meet the Headless Horseman.

Cost is \$7 per person, and children 7 and under are free.

Endview Plantation is a 74-acre site now featuring reenactments and Civil War living history programs. Built in 1769 by Colonel William Harwood Jr., signer of the Virginia Resolves, Endview has experienced the ordeal of three wars: the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Civil War, which found Endview serving as a hospital for both sides. It has been restored to its 1862 appearance.

Endview Plantation is located at 362 Yorktown Road, Newport News, Va. From I-64, take Exit 247 and follow the trailblazing signs.

For more information, call (757) 887-1862 or visit www.endview.org.

Volunteers for Haunted Forest

The Hampton Clean City Commission is seeking volunteers 14 years old and older to help raise money for the Keep Hampton Green tree-planting fund by participating in the Sandy Bottom Nature Park Haunted Forest. The more volunteers the Commission contributes to the Haunted Forest, the more money the Commission will raise for trees for Hampton!

The Haunted Forest will be held Oct. 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 26, 30, and 31. The Commission needs volunteers from 6 to 10 p.m. each of those nights through Oct. 25, and from 5 to 9 p.m. Oct. 26, 30, and 31.

Volunteers for this effort could be doing any of a number of interesting jobs - guiding participants on the Haunted Forest Trail, serving as ghouls, ghosts, or goblins on the trail, selling refreshments, providing technical assistance, directing traffic, selling tickets, or a number of other activities.

To volunteer for this very fun and different community activity, call the Hampton Clean City Commission at 727-6394 or e-mail the Commission at: hccc@hampton.gov.

'Theme Park' exhibit

Millions of fun seekers scramble through the thrills and chills of American theme parks every year. Now, thanks to a new traveling exhibit entitled "Theme Park: The Art & Science of Universal Studio's Islands of Adventure," the public can all sneak a peek behind the scenes. On view at Nauticus, The National Maritime Center now through Jan. 11, 2004, Theme Park reveals for the first time the secrets of math, science, art and technology that come together to bring theme park magic to life.

This 6,000 square-foot arts and science exhibit



Courtesy photo

(l-r) Bob Newman, Carlene Young and Michael Moore portray people from the 1800s.

'Visit' life in 1860s at Lee Hall Mansion

From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Oct. 18, encampments, re-enactors, demonstrations and crafts will transport visitors to Lee Hall Mansion to the Civil War years.

Guests can meet civilians and soldiers, learn of period fashion and enjoy the tales of storytellers as they weave tales of life in the 1860s.

Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for ages 12 and under. Admission to the house is a separate charge.

Lee Hall, an Italianate mansion constructed c. 1859, was once home to one of Warwick County's leading landowners, Richard Decauter Lee, who

achieved prominence using the method of scientific farming. It is the only large mid-nineteenth century plantation house remaining on Virginia's lower peninsula, and it served as the headquarters for Confederate Generals John Bankhead Magruder and Joseph E. Johnston during the spring of 1862. Lee Hall now provides an in-depth review of the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. Additionally, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information, call (757) 888-3371 or visit www.leehall.org.

invites visitors to step into a world where imagination becomes reality. Entering the exhibit is like going behind the scenes of an actual theme park. The interactive entrance portal presents the main characters and themes of the exhibit. Once inside, visitors find themselves within a centralized hub featuring a fascinating look at the combined arts and sciences used in the creative process. From the hub, visitors will venture into themed environments.

For anyone who loves water, SPLASH teaches visitors how water is used both to entertain and theme much of Universal Studios Islands of Adventure.

For those who love good spine-tingling rides, THRILL reveals the real science behind the high-tech roller coasters in THE LOST CONTINENT.

THEMING introduces visitors to Universal's SEUSS LANDING, featuring characters from the whimsical world of Dr. Seuss. Exhibit-goers can examine the complex process of turning two-dimensional pictures and books into three-dimensional worlds.

SHOWBOTICS takes visitors on an unforgettable

(See MORE MOAT NOTES, Page 16)

TEAM (Continued from page 11)

mold does not have chlorophyll, it can't produce its own sugars. It literally has to drop an enzyme on top of [the material] to digest it a little bit and uptake nutrients that way. So, if you can stop the moisture, you can stop the mold.

When asked if people should be concerned about spores blowing around in the air, Cook responded: "In this case, a lot of buildings were gotten to quickly, especially like Building 5. I think we had a bunch of personnel from the facility here ripping out carpet quick. If you are not really smelling or seeing mold you are in really good shape. There is really a select group of people that respond to it. Some children with asthmatic conditions have a reaction. The immuno-compromised people – transplant or AIDS patients, etc. – those are the ones to be concerned about because certain molds can actually become opportunistic on the lung tissue.

Living with mold

"We've been living with mold however long man has been around. If we didn't have it, we would have leaf litter as high as the Empire State Building because there would be no biodegradation. Yes, you shouldn't have it growing all over the place in a building that people inhabit, but with situations like this, you're in great shape.

"We're a lot more expeditious and we'll go a lot further than necessary

in this country, because of litigation. If you go to Australia, mold will probably not be that kind of an issue even though they still have it, and it's growing in the buildings. This is because, there you can't just sue somebody and lose. If you sue somebody and lose there, they have an act that says you pay all the court costs and defense costs if you lose. So, you are less inclined to go to court.

“Everything I’ve seen here looks very nice. We cut out all the wet stuff; we got to it quick.”

"Everything I've seen here looks very nice. We cut out all the wet stuff; we got to it quick. I thought the base was really good at giving us buildings quickly to work on.

When asked about difference in fresh versus saltwater losses, Cook said that the IICRC (international institute of cleaning and restoration contractors) sets international guidelines for handling water losses. Their publication called the S500 standard is the primary guidance and lists three categories of water: Category 1, 2 and 3; clear, gray, and black water, respectively. "Clear water can be like that in the toilet tank or the water fountain – it's clear, potable water. Even if

you let it sit for a while, it won't be a big microbial issue. Gray is potentially more contaminated than that. And, if you let gray water sit too long, it can convert to black water.

"Black water is just sewage, or like your lake house is flooded with lake water – it has known microbial growth already. With black water, it's a no brainer. If it's a porous material or semi-porous, you can't just come in and steam clean – it has to be ripped out. If it's saltwater – obviously, hurricanes and typhoons dump a lot of saltwater – so you get a lot more corrosion, so if we're doing a lot of work on machinery, metal products, things like that, we're going to treat those products for corrosion. We're going to put a corrosion inhibitor on it. Unless you can get to it and verify it is not that much saltwater, we will assume it's going to be a gray water loss. For cubicles, carpet and wood that we can get to, we'll just cut that out and get rid of it.

Cook had the following comments when considering the drying rate of different buildings on post.

Casemate Museum

"The [Casemate] museum is kind of a unique "animal." We do a lot of work for archivists, museum curators restoring artifacts. The thing you don't want to do in a museum is dry it out too fast, because you'll shrink uniforms, crack and dry

leather products, stuff that is already old and is probably cracked and dried anyway.

"The building is interesting anyway because of the way it's designed. It's got a grass top and several layers of soil. I know that in the past, they put in a moisture conveyance system that was built to run the moisture out before it landed on the roof inside of it. But that building is naturally wet. It is always leaking water. Usually with artifacts, you want to stay around 50 percent relative humidity. We're trying to maintain it at 50 percent or a little bit above. We have to keep up and exceed the building's normal moisture load because it is always leaking.

"Depending upon how much you throw at it, machine wise, and how many air exchanges are in the building, you can dry out a building in a week. What I've been seeing is a minimum of a week on all the buildings we've been working on here.

"We literally go around with penetrating moisture meters, and we will actually stab it into the walls. It makes two little bitty, vampire-fang marks and we determine the moisture content – if it's coming down or if it has already come down sufficiently. Then we shut the machines off and let them have the building back.

CARPENTER (Continued from page 3)

out of the South Bronx and now relished the fact that she was a full-blown soldier, the rapid-deployment world of the then 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) was pure excitement.

"It was the camaraderie; the hooah, hooah structure," Carpenter said. "I can't say it wasn't difficult or challenging, but it was definitely rewarding."

It was also a "world" that rewarded go-getters. In her time there, Carpenter was moved to increasingly important jobs like NCOIC of the transition point, where soldiers were readied for departure from the Army, and company training NCO, the individual who organizes everything from physical fitness training to weapons qualification ranges.

"I was also given the additional duty of reenlistment NCO," Carpenter said. Perhaps it was her background, her attitude or the "emotional intensity" of her heritage, but talking to soldiers about their career options was something she said she was especially good at. "In 1988, they offered me an opportunity to go to school to become a career counselor (MOS 79S) and I jumped at it. I wanted to be that person who actually assisted soldiers and got the jobs and training ... who would help soldiers figure out their next career move."

The ensuing years brought additional "professional development" opportunities – one of them being a bit of a fracas in the Middle East that went by the name of Desert Shield/Desert Storm – that made Carpenter a prime candidate for promotion. By that time she had already pinned on staff sergeant before many of her peers.

"Sure, I've run into those people who would say, 'Oh, you're a double dipper. You got pro-

moted because you're a woman and you're Hispanic,'" Carpenter said. "That's just ignorance talking; kind of the same message I'd heard before: 'This is what you're expected to do because you fit this specific stereotype.'"

While it may not be as prevalent, Carpenter said she's certain that sentiment still exists today. "Unfortunately, it's a learned habit, but fortunately, habits can be broken."

Eventually moving on to Germany, her only other duty assignment aside from Fort Monroe, Carpenter said she witnessed another interesting phenomena about ethnic diversity. Europeans have no trouble labeling those who live in U.S. military communities as simply "Americans."

"Germany, France, Italy – my family and me traveled a lot while we were there," Carpenter said. "When we went to Spain, I was told by the receptionist at our hotel that I spoke great Spanish for an American. She didn't try to place me into a subcategory, and I thought that was pretty cool."

Compare that to certain segments of her own culture that labels her as a "New-York-Rican," since she wasn't actually born in Puerto Rico, and you begin to understand her point of view. "Perhaps we spend a little too much time trying to categorize and subcategorize people rather than focus on our similarities.

"You know, I completely understand diversity training is important to help eliminate stereotypes and managerial practices that inhibit soldier and civilian personal development. Organizations should allow people to contribute to the organization regardless of their cultural background.

"But, I sometimes wonder why we've limited ourselves to placing so much emphasis on annual events like Hispanic Heritage Month," said Carpenter, who now holds a Masters Degree in Human Relations and a Bachelor's in Business Management Studies. "Perhaps we needed to start somewhere in order to eventually reach the point where we simply celebrate diversity in general all year long. Obviously, we're not quite there yet, but we will be."

Now 38, Carpenter is the mother of three: Aixa, 21, Ashley, 15, and Steven, who will turn five Oct. 22. She's also a grandmother, Johnathan, 2. Her husband, Robert, is a network engineer here. The current plan is for them to remain in Virginia when she heads off to the Sergeants Major Academy in January.

"In one small way, I'm right back where I started 20 years ago, tackling another life changing and difficult obstacle" Carpenter said. "With the love and support of my family, I'm ready to tackle anything the academy is going to throw my way."

Where Carpenter will head after she pins on sergeant major stripes is still up in the air, but she said there is one future destination that's certain. "I want to go back to my old neighborhood someday and show those who counted me out what I accomplished.

"More importantly, however, I want to be a positive role model/mentor and share my experiences with others in an effort to illustrate that anything is possible through faith and determination," Carpenter said. "There's a quote I picked up in my studies, which I think is relevant. 'If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything.'"

3X14 Freedom
Stores

MORE MOAT NOTES (Continued from page 14)

table behind-the-scenes journey through JURASSIC PARK, where they learn the secrets of robotics programmers and actually get to manipulate a JURASSIC SHOW-BOT.

Exhibit-goers meet the super heroes from MARVEL SUPER HERO ISLAND and learn about one of the most fascinating special effects attractions ever created: SPIDER-MAN – THE RIDE.

All of these lands combine to create a state-of-art museum exhibit unlike any other. For more information, please call (757) 664-1000.

Poe event at Lee Hall

Costumed interpreter Ron Furqueron will portray Edgar Allan Poe at Lee Hall Mansion at 7 p.m., Oct. 18. He will present some of Poe's most notable and spellbinding works.

Cost for the event is \$15 per person. Reservations are required.

Edgar Allan Poe was one the greatest and unhappiest of American poets, a master of the horror tale and the patron saint to the practitioners of the detective story. He virtually created the detective story and perfected the psychological thriller. He also produced some of the most influential literary criticism of his time.

Best known for his poems and short fiction, he was born in Boston Jan 19, 1809. He attended the University of Virginia in 1826 but was expelled for not paying his gam-

bling debts. In 1827, Poe joined the U.S. Army as a common soldier under a s s u m e d name and age. In 1830, Poe entered West Point and was dishonorably discharged next year.

The last years of Poe's life were very tragic. After his wife's death, Poe occasionally turned to alcohol to ease his despair. He was able to control the drinking so that it did not affect his work, despite what some critics may say. In 1849, Poe became engaged to Sarah Royster Shelton. On the way to the wedding on Sept. 28, he stopped in Baltimore and was later found lying outside a voting place on October 3. He died in a hospital four days later - cause of death unknown.

Lee Hall Mansion is located at 163 Yorktown Road, Newport News, Va. From I-64, take Exit 247 and follow the trailblazing signs.

For more information or to register, call (757) 888-3371 or visit www.leehall.org.



**Ron Furqueron,
educational specialist at Lee Hall
Mansion**

3 X 3 COASTAL

3X 3 1/2 ECPI